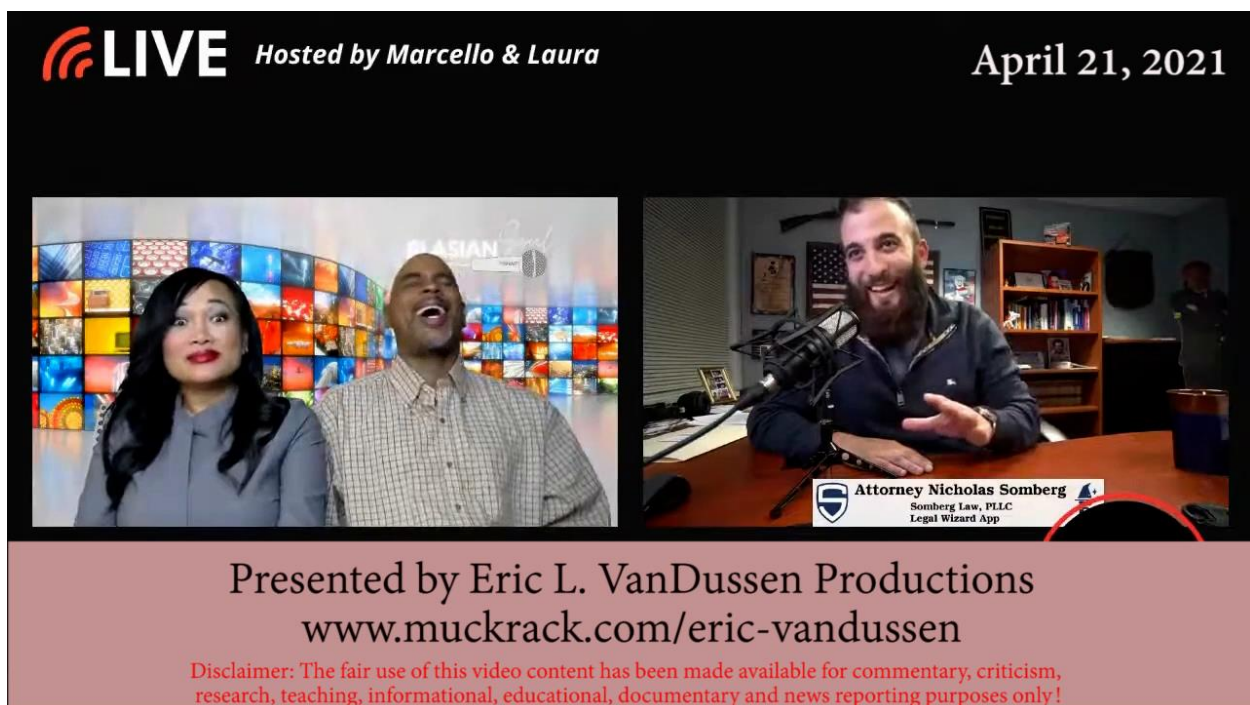


Attorney Nicholas Somberg jokes about vulgar meme of MI Gov. Whitmer he posted on Facebook

By Eric L. VanDussen – January 30, 2022

During an interview on April 21, 2021, attorney Nicholas Somberg explained how Facebook had "permanently disabled" his account for posting a vulgar meme depicting Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer. Somberg gloatingly revealed that he "posted a meme about the governor that [he] thought was hilarious." Somberg laughed repeatedly while describing the meme he posted as "a dirty joke," and claiming that "a lot of people think it's funny." He also said the meme was "a picture of Governor Whitmer under, like, the Pornhub heading. ... And it said, you know, "slut fucks the whole state." He went on to inform Blasian Soul Podcast hosts Marcello and Laura Robertson that "I don't know what kind of listeners you have. I thought that was hilarious... So that's what got me lifetime-banned." See: <https://vimeo.com/671768904>



Six weeks prior to his interview - on March 3, 2021 - Somberg looked on as FBI Special Agent Henrik Impola testified about how Somberg's client, Joseph Morrison, was allegedly involved in the Wolverine Watchmen militia's plot to kidnap and execute Gov. Whitmer. Agent Impola specifically testified that one meme posted by the Watchmen was "made to look like it's from the website PornHub.com and it's got [a picture of] Governor Gretchen Whitmer, [with] the caption "gross slut, fucks whole state."" See: <https://vimeo.com/671764486>

The three-day preliminary examination was held in front of Jackson County District Court Judge Michael Klaeren, on March 3-5, 2021, to determine whether Morrison and his two codefendants would be bound over to circuit court for trial. On March 29, 2021, Judge Klaeren heard oral arguments and ultimately ruled that "each of the defendants are being bound over on terrorist act providing material support, gang membership felonies and felony firearm." See: <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/judge-orders-3-trial-plot-kidnap-michigan-governor-n1262399>

BuzzFeed News' article "WATCHING THE WATCHMEN" was published on July 20, 2021 and it revealed that: "... Memes shared among the Watchmen throughout the spring of 2020 reflect their growing ire. One, a photo of Whitmer looking pensive, calls her a communist and imagines her thinking "how can I screw michiganders today." Another accuses her of planning to take everyone's guns. A third has her wearing a Nazi peaked cap, while a fourth photoshops Whitmer's head on Adolf Hitler's body. Then there's the picture of the governor, designed to look like a screenshot from Pornhub, bearing the caption "gross slut fucks whole state. ..." See: <https://www.buzzfeednews.com/article/kenbensinger/michigan-kidnapping-gretchen-whitmer-fbi-informant>

Transcripts of the above-described preliminary examination and bind over hearings can be downloaded here: <https://archive.org/compress/03-05-21-p-v-musico-morrison-bellar/formats=TEXT%20PDF&file=/03-05-21-p-v-musico-morrison-bellar.zip>

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